



NEWS RELEASE

August 27, 2002

Egyptian crewmen taken into custody

Disappeared from the M/V Alexandria

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana – Two Egyptian crewmen who jumped ship Sunday morning near Harahan were located and taken into custody at 5:10 p.m. as a result of a collective effort by local and federal agencies. Ahmed Mohamed Aly Abdelgayed and Mohamed Ahmed Aly Elnawasany were located after the New Orleans Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) received information regarding the missing crewmen. Officers from the U.S. Border Patrol, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Harbor Police located the two crewmen at a residence in Mid-City and took them into custody.

The two crewmen had been missing since their departure from the M/V Alexandria in the early morning hours on Aug. 25, 2002. Anti-smuggling agents from the U.S. Border Patrol obtained credible information, which included the assistance of the JTTF and the Immigration and Naturalization Service in New York. Further information received by federal authorities led to the eventual arrests.

The two crewmen are currently in the custody of the U.S. Border Patrol pending the completion of an investigations.

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